

CLAIMS

Sub B' 1. A communication device comprising:

(a) camera communication means for sending and receiving data to and from a digital camera; and

(b) network communication means for sending and receiving said data through a network, to and from a destination device.

2. A communication device as recited in claim 1 wherein said camera communication means utilizes an existing protocol of communication of said camera for communication to a PC, whereby said communication device is transparent to said camera.

3. A communication device as recited in claim 1 wherein said network communication means includes a modem.

4. A communications device as recited in claim 3 wherein said modem is connected via predefined phone numbers.

5. A communication device as recited in claim 1 wherein said network communication means includes means for connecting to an ethernet network.

6. A communication device as recited in claim 1 wherein said network communication means includes a network router.

7. A communication device as recited in claim 1 wherein said network communication means includes means for establishing a wireless connection to a network.

8. a communication device as recited in claim 1 wherein said network communication means includes means for establishing a satellite connection to a network.

1 9. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said destination device is a printer.

1 10. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said destination device is a phone switch.

1 11. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said destination device is a server.

1 12. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said communication device is programmable.

1 13. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said communication device has a unique
3 identification.

1 14. A communication device as recited in claim 13
2 wherein said communication device sends said unique
3 identification as part of said data to be transmitted to said
4 destination device.

1 15. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said communication device further comprises a counter
3 to provide a unique identification number for image data
4 representing a particular image.

1 16. A communication device as recited in claim 15
2 wherein said communication device sends said unique
3 identification of each said image as part of said
4 transmission.

1 17. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said communication device includes means for
3 providing time and date identification data indicating the
4 time and date of processing of each image.

1 18. A communication device as recited in claim 17
2 wherein said communication device receives said time and date
3 identification data from the network.

1 19. A communication device as recited in claim 18
2 wherein said communication device sends said time and date
3 identification data as part of said data transmitted to said
4 destination device.

1 20. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said communication device includes global positioning
3 detection apparatus.

1 21. A communication device as recited in claim 20
2 wherein said communication device sends global position data
3 as part of said data transmittal to said destination device.

1 22. A communication device as recited in claim 12
2 wherein said camera communication means includes means for
3 entering data for programming said communication device.

1 23. A communication device as recited in claim 12
2 wherein said communication device is programmed with data
3 received from said destination device.

1 24. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising a Smart card port for reception of a Smart
3 card.

1 25. A communication device as recited in claim 12
2 wherein said communication device is programmable to receive
3 camera operational parameter data and to send said camera
4 operational parameter data to a camera connected to said
5 communication device.

1 26. A communication device as recited in claim 12
2 wherein said communication device is programmable to
3 watermark image data received from a camera.

1 27. A communication device as recited in claim 12
2 wherein said communication device is programmable to encrypt
3 image data received from a camera.

1 28. A communication device as recited in claim 12
2 wherein said communication device is programmable to form
3 image authentication data.

1 29. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said network communication means is for sending data
3 to a plurality of network destination devices.

1 30. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising a visual display for indicating the
3 progression of said sending data.

1 31. A communication device as recited in claim 30
2 wherein said visual display indicates a remaining number of
3 images to be sent.

1 32. A communication device as recited in claim 30
2 wherein said visual display indicates remaining time for
3 transmission.

1 33. A communication device as recited in claim 30
2 wherein said visual display indicates established connection
3 to the camera.

1 34. A communication device as recited in claim 30
2 wherein said visual display indicates established connection
3 to said destination device.

1 35. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said camera communication means includes a serial
3 port.

1 36. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said camera communication means includes a parallel
3 port.

1 37. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said camera communication means includes a SCSI port.

1 38. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said camera communication means includes a USB port.

1 39. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said camera communication means includes an infrared
3 port.

1 40. A method for transmitting digital data from a
2 camera to a destination device said method comprising:

3 (a) performing operations by use of a communication
4 device, said operations including

5 (i) sending said digital data from a camera to
6 said communication device; and

7 (ii) structuring said camera data within said
8 communication device to a compatible protocol for
9 transmission through a network to a communication network to
10 a destination device.

1 41. A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said
2 destination device is a computer.

1 42. A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said
2 destination device is a computer.

1 43. A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said
2 destination device is a network.

1 44. A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said
2 destination device is a printer.

1 45. A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said
2 operations further include

3 (a) encrypting said digital camera data to form
4 encrypted camera data; and

5 (b) structuring said encrypted data to a compatible
6 protocol for transmission through a network to a destination
7 device.

1 46. A method as recited in claim 40 wherein said
2 operations further include

3 (a) creating authentication data; and

4 (b) structuring said authentication data to a
5 compatible protocol for transmission through a network.

1 47. A method as recited in claim 40 further comprising
2 programming said communication device to add additional data
3 for transmission with said camera data to a network.

1 48. A method as recited in claim 40 further
2 comprising:

3 programming said communication device with operational
4 instructions for transmission to said camera.

1 49. A method as recited in claim 40 further
2 comprising:

3 programming said communication device for encryption of
4 camera data.

1 50. A method as recited in claim 40 further
2 comprising:
3 programming said communication device for creating
4 authentication data.

1 51. A method as recited in claim 40 further
2 comprising:
3 programming said communication device for watermarking
4 of camera data.

1 52. A method as recited in claim 40 further
2 comprising:
3 programming said communications device for
4 fingerprinting data.

1 53. A method as recited in claim 50 further
2 comprising:
3 (a) transmitting unencrypted digital camera data to a
4 first said destination device; and
5 (b) transmitting said authentication data to a second
6 said destination device.

1 54. A method for transmitting digital camera data
2 comprising:
3 (a) uploading said digital camera data from a camera
4 to a communication device; and
5 (b) structuring said camera data within said
6 communication device to a compatible format for transmission
7 and display of said digital camera data on a video/TV
8 receiver.

1 55. A digital camera comprising:
2 (a) means for converting light to digital image data;
3 (b) port means for receiving and sending digital data;

4 (c) means for transmitting and receiving said digital
5 data to and from a destination device by way of a
6 communication network; and

7 (d) means for automatically performing one or more
8 programmed operations upon occurrence of a condition.

1 56. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 further
2 comprising means for securing said digital image data.

1 57. A digital camera as recited in claim 56 wherein
2 said programmed operations include said transmitting said
3 data.

1 58. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising means for automatically performing a
3 programmed operation upon occurrence of a condition.

1 59. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said programmed operation is receiving of image data
3 from a camera and performing an operation in response to
4 receiving said image data.

1 60. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said condition is an instruction received from a
3 destination by way of said network.

1 61. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said condition is a specific time to perform said
3 operation.

1 62. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said condition is slow traffic on the network.

1 63. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said operation is sending data to said network.

1 64. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said condition is a predefined amount of camera
3 memory capacity available for storage of additional image
4 data.

1 65. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said operation is receiving additional information
3 from a remote destination.

1 66. A communication device as recited in claim 65
2 wherein said additional information is for accompanying
3 specific image data.

1 67. A communication device as recited in claim 65
2 wherein said additional information is operational
3 instructions.

1 68. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said operation is connecting to a network.

1 69. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said operation is disconnecting from a network.

1 70. A communication device as recited in claim 61
2 wherein said operation is taking a picture.

1 71. A communication device as recited in claim 61
2 wherein said operator is downloading said data to said
3 destination device.

1 72. A communication device as recited in claim 61
2 wherein said operation is uploading data from said
3 destination device.

1 73. A communication device as recited in claim 72
2 wherein said data includes a camera ID and account number.

1 74. A communication device as recited in claim 73
2 wherein said operation further includes downloading said
3 camera ID and account number upon occurrence of a second
4 condition.

1 75. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising a ROM programmed for a specific purpose.

1 76. A communication device as recited in claim 75
2 wherein said specific purpose is to restrict downloading to a
3 specific destination.

1 77. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising visual display means for indicating
3 operation status.

1 78. A communication device as recited in claim 77
2 wherein said display means indicates when said device is
3 programmed to connect to a network, and indicate when a
4 network connection is made to said device.

1 79. A digital camera as recited in claim 57 wherein
2 said condition includes said camera receiving a signal from
3 said remote destination.

1 80. A digital camera as recited in claim 57 wherein
2 said condition includes said camera programmed to perform a
3 said operation at a specific time.

1 81. A digital camera as recited in claim 57 wherein
2 (a) said means for securing includes means for
3 creating encrypted data from said digital image data;
4 (b) said programmed operations further include said
5 securing, and said transmitting; and
6 (c) said digital data includes information to be
7 transmitted to said destination.

1 82. A digital camera as recited in claim 81 wherein
2 said digital data includes

- 3 (a) camera identification data; and
4 (b) user identification data..

1 83. A method as recited in claim 40 further
2 comprising:

3 said communication device automatically responding to
4 one or more conditions by performing one or more programmed
5 operations.

1 84. A method as recited in claim 83 wherein

2 (a) said programmed operation is said transmitting;
3 and

4 (b) said condition includes a signal from said
5 destination.

1 85. A communication device as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising means for including identification of a
3 camera that secured a particular image along with said data
4 representing said particular image.

1 86. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 further
2 comprising means for including identification of said camera
3 along with said data representing said particular image.

1 87. A method as recited in claim 40 further comprising
2 means for including identification of a camera that secured a
3 particular image along with said data representing said
4 particular image.

1 88. A method as recited in claim 40 further comprising
2 means for including a unique number with each group of said
3 digital data representing a particular image.

1 89. A digital camera as recited in claim 86 further
2 comprising means for including a unique number with each said
3 data representing said particular image.

1 90. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 wherein
2 said condition is a predefined amount of camera memory
3 capacity available for storage of additional image data, and
4 said operation is downloading of image data.

1 91. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 wherein
2 said condition is a passing of a predetermined interval of
3 time, and said operation is downloading of image data.

1 92. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 wherein
2 said operation is downloading of image data into a pre-
3 existing database.

1 93. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 wherein
2 said condition originates at said camera, and said operation
3 is downloading of image data.

1 94. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 wherein
2 said digital data includes data received from a server.

1 95. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said condition is a passing of a predetermined
3 interval of time, and said operation is downloading of image
4 data.

1 96. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said operation is downloading of image data into a
3 pre-existing database.

1 97. A communication device as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said condition originates from said camera, and said
3 operation is downloading of image data.

1 98. A communication devise as recited in claim 58
2 wherein said digital data includes said communication device
3 receiving a signal from said destination device.

1 99. A digital camera as recited in claim 55 wherein
2 said condition is slow traffic on a network, and said
3 operation is downloading data to a destination device
4 through said network.